

in the spending of any public money. The public is not enamored of spending public money...

SENATOR WARNER: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...for campaigns and yet they want a campaign limitation and there are very, very few ways you can do that within the...with the prerogatives given us by the court and I think this is one way that might do, just might do it, might effectively have a limitation without actually ever spending any public money. So hope you'll take an interest in it. Thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Hall. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Senator Beutler, if we lived in a perfect world we wouldn't need the bill at all. The facts are that if I owned the Banner Press in David City, Nebraska, and chose to support the incumbent or the nonincumbent I could use that form of the media to make available to the public my favorite candidates news releases. I could give them favored positions in the newspaper. I could editorialize within the reporting so as to make my candidate more wise and more just and more equitable and more amenable than anyone else. I could, of course, editorialize in favor of the candidate repeatedly and all of those factors are, as far as I know, nonaccountable. They do not add up. The multitude of comments that can be made via the media in support of or opposed to a candidate can directly influence the amount of money that needs to be spent to win or lose a race. I'd like to just...I watched and my son was back east during the presidential campaign in New Hampshire and being somewhat of an interested person in politics he followed the campaigns around and particularly that of Senator Kerrey and I visited with him a number of times about the campaigns and his conclusion and he is going to send me a critique of that campaign, I thought it was kind of interesting, was that for some reason at some point it was determined by the media that a Vietnam veteran who was a Medal of Honor winner would not be a good candidate for the presidency and he was not treated with the same kind of treatment by the media that was, for example, Governor Clinton, almost the reverse of what we recognized of course shortly after World War II. But in any case, it was his conclusion, and I don't want to editorialize for him, but one which he also said was quite common was that for some reason Senator Kerrey didn't catch on with the press and from that